



**THE HUNTSMAN'S ECHO.**

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**Agents**

For *Huntsman's Echo*, authorized to receive subscriptions and advertising, and also to receive and receipt for any money:  
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**Synopsis of most important  
Telegraphic News from  
the Omaha Daily Telegraph.**

**JEFFERSON CITY, April 19.**—Thirty guns were fired on Capitol Hill, in honor of secession.

**BOONVILLE, 20th.**—Immense meeting and intense excitement. Southern flag hoisted. Resolutions for immediate secession.

**INDEPENDENCE, 20th.**—The arsenal at Liberty seized by the secessionists, and 1200 stand of arms, cannon, powder, &c. captured.

**ST. JOSEPH, 20th.**—Secession flag raised on Market Square.

The Governor of Delaware refused to respond to the call of the President for troops, and placed all the public arms and supplies in the hands of the secessionists. The people of that State are divided.

**NEW ORLEANS.**—Star of the West captured by Galveston troops, with load of provisions.

**KANSAS CITY, 20th.**—Great secession meeting held, and flag-staff 125 feet high bore the secession flag. The Rail Road bridges between Baltimore and Harrisburg are destroyed. Harper's Ferry is in possession of Southern troops.

At Leavenworth, Kansas, the citizens are furnished with arms from the fort.

The authorities of Louisville, Ky., New Albany and Jeffersonville, Ind., have formed military alliance for mutual protection.

**Schenoy, L. C. Watt** has been seized with arms and munitions of war on board for the South.

Neither General Scott or Anderson have resigned their commissions. The people of Chambersburg are fortifying against invasion.

All communication by telegraph to points south of Philadelphia, are now cut off, as the lines have been destroyed in those sections.

**22d.**—Fearful state of affairs at Baltimore—business suspended, houses provided with loop-holes, streets barricaded, shutters up, and doors fast. Union men fleeing for their lives, none but Southern flags flying in the city. Northern men were unseaf—terror reigns.

The guns of Fort Mifflin are pointed at the city, which is threatened with bombardment. The city is making all preparations to take Fort Mifflin.

**Wm. B. Ader** offers to give the government \$4,000,000, and lend it \$75,000,000.

1,000 barrels of powder, bound for the South, was seized at New York. It is reported that an attempt was made to poison the Massachusetts troops while at New York—the poison was put in the brandy—one died.

Commodore Vanderbilt offers the government the use of his fleet, all armed and equipped, without cost. The banks of Albany have tendered three and a half millions dollars for war purposes.

In New Orleans a fine colored military company offers their services to the State.

Preparations for war in Texas are progressing on a large scale. The remaining federal troops will be taken prisoners.

Six hundred dollars of the loan at Mobile was taken by the colored population.

The Union men in Arkansas have all turned secessionists, and are in for immediate secession.

From the *Dahot's Democrat* we learn that the steamer *Omaha* was stopped at Niagara on its way to Fort Randall, the officers demanding her return, and protesting against her going up to take away soldiers from that fort. A fight ensued, in which four men were killed.

The boat had to turn about.

The Government ships at the Navy-yard at Portsmouth and Norfolk were destroyed

by Capt. Pendragast, also all the arms &c. Women and children are fleeing for their lives, rushing to arms, houses and property being destroyed by being blown up, and factories being leveled to the ground.

**New Mail Arrangements.**

Twelve years ago we became convinced that the Platte Valley would become the great overland thoroughfare to the Pacific, and altho' every exertion and every artifice that could be devised has been resorted to by those living south to find and establish a southern route and Government has already expended millions to accomplish the same. The task has proven unavailing. And now after years of trial and the expanding of untold amounts of money, the great Butterfield line of coaches to the Pacific has been removed to the Platte Valley, (central route) where a daily line of coaches from Omaha, via Laramie, Salt Lake and Carson Valley to the Pacific, will be put in motion on or before the first of July. The Pacific Telegraph has already gone as far as Kearney, and this season will doubtless be built as far as Salt Lake.

The next great movement will be the commencement of the Pacific Rail Road starting from Omaha. This is truly a fast country—isn't it?

**Blooming Spring has Come!**

Aye, the zephyrs are once again wafting from the glowing south the breath of roses and orange blossoms, and even here, in the broad beautiful plains of the West, the fragrance of the snowy-white plum trees, and the beds of blooming violets effuse the genial breath of spring with the most grateful odors.

The forests and groves, and even our own sweet tree-studded lawn, in front, are rapidly assuming the bright, leafy garb, so cheerfully variant as to make the heart throb with delight, as at early morn the merry wild songsters warble their joyous notes, to awaken and encourage the husbandman in his honest toil, and cheer the heart that is sad and lonely, or oppressed with the cares of life.—If there be a real joy for mortals on earth it is these, combined with the companionship of a quiet home, with "wife, children and friends" and a heart to appreciate heaven's best gifts.

Give us the spring-time, with its bright springing verdure, its fragrant flowers, its music of brooklets and birds, its sighing zephyrs and soft twilights, its youth-giving, soul-cheering, omnipotence, its glorious sunshines and pattering, reviving showers, its soft velvet carpet of green, its sweet leafy groves, and hearts of love and friendship, and hands of firmness and truth, and we ask no paradise but earth, and a regal sceptre would be no temptation to fly from these—and even the joys of heaven would scarce compensate in exchange for so great happiness thus beneficently provided by the all-wise and bountiful creator of our existence, our hopes, and our hereafter. O, the heart must be dead and hopeless, that cannot enjoy the elysium of spring—the diadem of the year, and the crowning beauty of mortal life, and the foreshadowing of those immortal joys beyond this life of cares and sorrows.

All hail to beautiful, glowing, blooming, joyous spring.  
"Fain would my muse the flowing treasure sing  
The rising glories of the youthful Spring."

**Earthquake.**

Whilst we were at Genoa, on the 19th of March, just 17 minutes before 11, A. M., we sensibly experienced the shock of an Earthquake, which continued half a minute. The rumbling was loud, and the trembling vibration readily perceptible, making the crockery on the shelves rattle considerably. The noise seemed to be in the north-west.

**Small Indian Fight.**

From friend Walker, at Genoa, we learn of the following fight, which occurred near that place:  
On the morning of the 25th inst. Two Pawnee Indians were out on the bluffs near their village, as Ricket-guard, and before they were aware of the fact they were nearly surrounded by twenty-five mounted Cheyenne warriors. The minority fled precipitately, and were pursued, and whilst attempting to cross Beaver Creek one was shot dead, whilst the other hastened to the village, wounded by a ball in the shoulder. Some dozen mounted men and some foot started from the village in pursuit, but failed to overtake the intrepid assailants—and so, that war is ended.

Some 100 of the chiefs and principal men of the Pawnees went over on a visit to the Punks and Yanktons, expecting extensive presents in horses, but came back with about a dozen, considerably disappointed. It seems that these frontier tribes have all met with great losses in their stock this past winter.

**The Hawk-harrows.**

It is not a little surprising that the people down the Valley, all the way to Omaha, will get so glibly as to believe

every silly yarn that is related by designing parties passing down, regarding the movements of the Sioux Indians, and the danger to these far away frontiers, from their hostilities.

To make short work of the matter we will observe that we do not know of a person in this whole frontier region, that is fearful of any outrage or depredations by the Sioux or their allies. At Kearney city, and all the way up and down, the ranches have laid in all the goods and supplies they are able to buy, and all sorts of agricultural works, building and improvements are going on regularly and rapidly, as though there was not an Indian in this quarter of the globe, and yet we learn that many are afraid to travel up this Valley for fear of losing their very precious, cowardly scalps. We repeat it, there is no danger whatever of harm from the Indians if you let them alone.

**Frost.**

One night last week we had quite a severe frost in some localities here, and, wonderful to remark, whilst there was ice in a tub by the house, the beans, melons, cucumbers, and other tender plants, fairly up in the garden closely, escaped uninjured, and are still firm and healthy.

**Our Birth-Day.**

How soon another Birthday has dawned since a year ago! Time seems to pass with the speed of a race-horse, and we seem only to have time, after one has passed, to count another until it is upon us. To-day is the forty-fourth of that interesting epoch we have lived to witness. Indeed we can scarce credit the fact, that time has kept so long a standing account with us; for as we sit here alone with our own thoughts as companions, we feel "we are a boy again," with spirits light, and agile limbs, as when in our childish, school-boy sports, few could excel us for fleetness, agility, or other manly amusements.—Indeed, it is hard to realize that we are becoming old, and that our noon-day of life is past. Aye, to those who love and enjoy life this is a sorrowful conviction, and yet where we can look back upon few actions to regret, and with conscience void of intentional offence, we need not regret that we are approaching *Rest*. Life to us is still sweet, and we can but feel some regrets, that as age approaches, time seems to hasten his steps. As troubles and anxieties of life thicken around us, so does hoary Time drive his car with greater velocity—doubtless in kindly humanity, to relieve us mortals of the ills and troubles of age and second childhood. "Getting old!" aye, and yet our hair is not perceptibly sprinkled with the snows or frosts of years, our heart full as light and playful as at twenty. We tumble about with the children, run races with the boys, and still, as when a school-boy jump through our clasped hands. We are as fond of sport, music, flowers, and social reunions, and more than ever admire nature, and yet the weight of years are upon us; another birth-day has arrived, and the conviction is forced upon us that we are getting old, and in a few years will pass away, and though the spirit of youth and soul of younger days finger with us, and our heart warms as did it ever, a few more "birth-days" at most will lay us in the tomb that an eternal youth may be ours. "Such is Life," and may each successive birth-day find us prepared to cancel the great debt of nature, ever due from mortals.

**Easy Mode of Growing Potatoes.**

We remember, when quite a boy, we had on the farm and near the barn a piece of greenward and after finishing planting, we had left several bushels of small potatoes. At father's suggestion these potatoes were scattered over the greenward, and manure from the barnyard, long and short was hauled out and promiscuously scattered over the potatoes. In the fall we pitched away the manure, and poked up from the top of the ground many bushels of fine, clean potatoes. Of late we have noticed that mode highly recommended by numbers who have tried it. We believe it to be an easy and successful way of producing that crop, and shall practice that mode this season, and expect to chronicle a good result.

**Early Crops of Corn.**

In this region it is quite a desideratum to get for planting, a kind of corn that will mature in the shortest time, taking at the same time into consideration, the quality or quantity of the grain. One who has an early crop here can bring it into market while yet that article bears the highest price, (for corn is always the lowest at harvest time).

The early "Adams" produces a large sized ear—has twenty rows—and is a good sound, heavy article, and yields well, and ripens 60 days after planting, being seen thirty days earlier than the ordinary crops grows. We have tried it

several years, and are highly satisfied with its success.

We can furnish several farmers with a few quarts each, by which they may soon have abundance of that rare and choice kind, which will eventually succeed all other varieties in the west.

**Omaha Daily Telegraph.**

This hastily-grown and interesting little Daily has become a public necessity—in fact, it is the first we grasp at when our mail lies before us. The citizens of the Platte Valley, along the stage route, should not fail to take it and therein learn the very latest news through these intensely exciting times. It is ably conducted, and is a sprightly sheet. H. Curtis, editor. Subscription price 70 cents per month, or \$8 per year.

**Citizen's Meeting.**

On Tuesday afternoon, agreeable to public notice, citizens of this section met in mass at Mr. Peck's Rauche. Judge Peck was called to the chair, and P. E. D'Orsay elected secretary. After discussion of our welfare, prosperity and safety, it was resolved that a military company be organized.—Every soldier present, at once enrolled his name. J. H. Wagner was elected Captain, H. Peck, 1st., and R. Moore, 2d Lieutenant, and P. E. D'Orsay, Orderly Sergeant.

The expressed object of this organization, is for a Home Guard, and its non-deplorable—"The Wood Liver Rangers," to protect the settlement against all thieves, marauders, and those of any color, who disturb the peace of society, or interfere with all lawful pursuits of happiness.

The Hall County Cattle Regulation was also unanimously adopted.—Owners of stock are responsible for all damages their stock may do to the crops of their neighbors, day or night, and the stock is to be the hostage until satisfaction is made. The deliberations and actions of the meeting were pleasantly harmonious and unanimous. The Company are to meet at Wood River Centre, a week from Saturday next, when all who will unite are invited to attend.

**Wind River Gold Mines.**

We had the pleasure yesterday of taking by the land our old neighbor, Mr. Merchant, just down from the Wind River Gold Mines where he has been for the last year in business. He is now on his way to Omaha to obtain the iron for a saw-mill to be immediately erected at South Pass City, on the Sweetwater, and but a few miles from the newly discovered placer. Mr. Merchant more than confirms the truth of former information and is sanguine the mines in that region are more extensive and more productive than at Pike's Peak. He informs us that several stone buildings had been erected in South Pass City and that active preparations were in progress for extensive improvements. A number of companies had privies and were preparing to put in their slaves and make other preparations for vigorous operations at mining this season.

We have no doubt of the truth of Mr. Merchant's statements, for his character for veracity and steady business habits is a questionable. We shall soon expect to hear of multitudes of miners going from Denver, and thousands also from the East, from Denver to the capital of the new mines, we are informed, is only about 200 miles. South Pass City is on the Sweetwater directly on the Utah and California route, and about 525 miles from Leve. The natural advantages for settlement are wonderful. Stock need no hay or feed through the winter; plenty of good pine timber; water like most excellent; and building rock of the most convenient shape in layers, to say nothing of beds of plaster, layers of marble, and huge veins of stone coal. All hail the age of Golden lands, of shining sands, of glittering strands, of busy hands, of mining bands and wealth to man.

**Fine Stocks of Goods!**

To our friends the rancheros and traders of Platte Valley, we have one word to say. There are now fine stocks of goods in Omaha, and at the present time a little cash will buy a heap of goods.

Messrs. Megenth Brothers, & Co. have an extensive and complete stock which they are jobbing out upon terms no one can complain of. And, besides, they are good, sociable, honorable men, and what they say you may rely upon. To do, as usual, have a splendid stock, and are as liberal as their neighbors, and are always ready to give you a bargain. In dry and fancy goods Mr. Ruth is said to be below competition in price, and will give you full value for your money. In hardware, Hurford Brothers keep everything, either for jobbing or retailing—tools, cutlery, house-trimmings, agricultural implements, &c., and are reliable and obliging. In drugs, go to Ish, who is the very ultimatum of attention and politeness. He has a fine stock and sells at the very lowest figures.

In Council Bluffs, we recommend the firm of Geo. Parks, & Co. as being the heaviest and most reliable dealers. They keep everything to dry and fancy goods; boots, shoes, hardware, clothing, crockery, liquors, groceries and provisions; and do a large jobbing business. They always will sell a little lower than their

neighbors, and consequently are always doing a good business. Messrs. Fredericson & Jackson keep a fine, well-selected stock, and their straightforward honorable mode of business adds to their growing trade and popularity. Charles Butterfield keeps groceries and provisions, grain, &c., and deals fairly and gives good satisfaction to his customers. In tinware and stoves one can get better bargains at Rogers' old stand, than at any other house in the west. In saddles and harness J. B. Lewis will sell first-rate custom-work a little lower than the lowest.

**Council Bluffs.**

The merchants of this place are now fully prepared to supply the wants of emigrants and country merchants, in dry goods, groceries, provisions, boots, shoes, hardware, liquors, &c., Geo. Parks, & Co., and H. Fredericson and Jackson, are the best houses to deal at. For drugs and medicines go to Geesaman, & Co. They have a fine stock, and will do as well by their customers as at any house in the West. Those who want saddles, harness, or anything in that line, call on John B. Lewis, the cleverest and most upright man in this city. At Rogers' old stand is the best and cheapest assortment of tinware, stoves, etc., etc., will be found. If grain and provisions are needed, go to Butterfield's he has all in abundance and will serve you generously. The Pacific House is the best hotel in the West, and has the best landlord. Phillips & Co. have an excellent assortment of boots and shoes, and is a generous fellow, and Fox will do you up in the hardware line.

**Porter's Spirit.**

Published weekly in New York, and is the most decided gentleman's paper published on this continent.

Field sports, the turf, the stage, and literature of the day are the dominant features. Its original witticisms, anecdotes, and humorous laughable articles are not excelled by any journal of its style in the universe. Published at \$2 per year, and in right form for binding, and will make over 500 pages annually.

**Agricultural works.**

It is quite surprising that our frontier farmers are so negligent in mastering the theories of their business as well as practicing, thus neglecting to profit by the experience of others; and gaining all their information step by step in the old-fashioned slow-coach of experience, which is not only a loss of time, but also of opportunities of making money. No thrifty, or even economical farmer will fail to take, at least, one agricultural journal. They are a positive necessity in these days of progress, and in money and time will often save the husbandman a hundred or more dollars per year by reading and adopting the experience of those who have leisure and means to experiment, in soils, fertilizers, seeds, etc., and produce improved varieties of annuals and crops. Among the many valuable periodicals upon this subject, produced in our country, we would specially recommend a few, viz: "The American Agriculturist," published in New York. "The Country Gentleman," published at Albany; and the "Rural New Yorker," Rochester, New York.—"The Prairie Farmer," Chicago, Ill.—"Wisconsin Farmer," Madison, Wis.—"Ohio Cultivator," Columbus, O.—"The Iowa Farmer," Des Moines, and "The Nebraska Farmer," at Brownville. Farmers, we again repeat it; if you have brains, send for some Agricultural periodical to help your hands and physical nature. If you are destitute of brains you need them all the more.

**Inventors and Mechanics.**

The "Scientific American" is now one of the most interesting of all American periodicals, especially to inventors, artisans, mechanics, and scientific men generally—only \$2 per year. Published in New York. It is earnestly welcomed to our table.

**Personal.**

On Thursday last, a train of goods for Messrs. Seldon, Nicholser, & Co., of Kearney city, passed up. "Nick" is a stirring, enterprising fellow who knows a thing or two, and is withal a generous, sociable fellow and we heartily wish him success.

**Hurra! The Pacific Telegraph!**

The Telegraph Company are now sending out the provisions, supplies, and necessaries for pushing forward the work on the telegraph line west of Kearney. Two teams, in charge of Mr. Clark, went up yesterday. The "boys" on the line are a pleasant, jovial set of fellows, and we shall be glad to see them out again.

**Platte River &c.**

The crossing at Kearney is first rate—loads are drawn over without delay. Weather fine and cool, no rain.

**COUNCIL BLUFFS AND OMAHA.**

THE BEST  
**OUTFITTING POINT!!!**  
DESCRIPTION OF THE  
**Route, Camping Places, Ranches  
Etc., Etc.**

[Condensed from Collins' Emigrant's Guide to the Gold Mines of the Rocky Mountains.]

**Council Bluffs, Iowa.**

Is situated on the east side of the Missouri River. It possesses some of the finest buildings west of St. Louis. Two Railroads, one from Chicago, and the other the Platte Country Railroad, and the connection of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad, will, when completed, make this their Western terminus. A large portion of last year's emigration passed through here.

**Omaha.**

Omaha, Nebraska Territory, is situated on the west side of the Missouri River, about twenty miles above where the Platte empties in the Missouri. It is eminently designed as a great outfitting point.—Steamboats ply between here and St. Joseph running in connection with the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad; thus bringing her in direct connection with the East. A railroad will soon be completed between Chicago and Council Bluffs, and rapid progress is being made with the St. Joseph and Council Bluffs Railroad, thus giving Omaha superior railroad and river facilities.

From Omaha the road to Fort Kearney is thickly settled with thrifty farmers.—Hay, corn and provisions can be purchased on the road at reasonable prices.

**GUIDE TO THE GOLD MINES.**

Table of Distances from Omaha City to Denver.

MILES

From Omaha a large emigration starts annually for the Gold Fields of the Rocky Mountains. The stage, stage, creeks and rivers are well fitted to reach this city and Ft. Kearney. It is thickly settled for 200 miles. The Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad have a line of packets running between St. Joseph and this city thus facilitating Eastern travel.
The following table does not give the names of all ranches on the route but merely those that have accommodations for emigrants, and those that have made calculations to meet the wants of the emigration, as they are the most reliable ranches on the route, emigrants should visit them to do well to camp as convenient to them as possible.
<b>Little Pappillon</b> —Water and grass.
<b>Pappillon</b> —Water and grass.
<b>Reed's Ranch</b> —Plenty of hay and stable; water and grass and good camping.
<b>J. F. Menger</b> —Hay, corn and good stabling. General accommodations. <b>Elkhorn City</b> —A small settlement here; good accommodations for emigrants at stock can be obtained at the City Hotel, kept by Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Baer.
<b>Bridgeport</b> —Situated on the Elkhorn River, one mile from Elkhorn City; several stone and large settlement. Those wishing to camp for the night, can find good accommodations for themselves, and excellent stabling for their stock, at the McNeal House and Pike's Peak House. Plenty of wood, water and grass. From here a long prairie is crossed, occasionally passing water in ponds.
<b>Fremont</b> —A large settlement; several stores, etc.
<b>Nye's Hotel</b> —Nye & Colson, proprietors; general accommodations. The largest stable between Omaha and Denver.
<b>Valley House</b> —By Margaret Turner. W. S. Comp's station; good hotel accommodations; stabling, corn and hay for sale.
<b>North Bend</b> —
<b>Platte Falls House</b> —by R. Graham. Hay, corn, stabling, blacksmithing, wood, water and grass.
<b>Duchanow Howe</b> —by N. Tenney. Wood, water and grass; good camping ground, hay and corn for sale.
<b>Alexander Robertson</b> keeps hay and corn for sale, stabling; good camping ground. One mile west of Shell Creek.
<b>Junction Ranche</b> —by H. B. Shell; general accommodations for emigrants and stock. Here is a blacksmith shop where all kinds of work repairing can be done on short notice. Wood, water and grass.
<b>Joseph Russell's</b> —Plenty of wood, water and grass. Accommodations for emigrants and stock.
<b>Patrick Morris</b> keeps for sale hay, corn, meal, flour and potatoes; good camping ground and good roads.
<b>Columbia</b> is situated on the north side of the Loupe Fork. Ferry crosses here. Those wishing to replenish their outfit in any particular, can do so at the store of T. G. Becher, who keeps a general assortment of groceries. Likewise will be found here, the office of the Western Stage Company, and the Post Office; good stabling, hay and corn for sale. Messrs. Rickey & Co., on the south side of the road, also keep a good assortment of everything necessary for the emigrant; also, all kinds of meat for sale at the American Hotel, kept by R. O. Baker, travelers can regale themselves with a good meal of victuals, a comfortable bed, and good stabling for stock, at moderate prices. This is the W. S. Co. station. By reference to the Ferry Company's advertisement, emigrants can there see the rates of toll.
After crossing the Loupe Fork ferry, the next ranche is <b>Guy &amp; Barsum's</b> —Hay and corn for sale. W. S. Co. station; good camping ground.
<b>Patrick Creek Ranche</b> —by H. H. Harty; good accommodations for emigrants and stock. Prairie Creek is bridged.
<b>James Cummings</b> —W. S. Co. station.
<b>Baker's Junction Ranche</b> —Sign of the "Red White and Blue" Store; good stabling; good camping ground. Here is where the road from Grand Ferry strikes the Platte.
[Those wishing to go by way of Genoa will not cross the river at Columbia, but keep up the north side of the Loupe Fork up to Patrick Murr...